

**ELLESMERE PORT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1953



W. J. BIRCHALL

M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

E. TUFT

M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

REPORT


OF THE

Medical Officer Of Health

FOR THE

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INTRODUCTION

**TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ELLESMERE PORT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1953.

The local statistics relating to health are quite satisfactory, and compare favourably with the National figures.

The high Birth Rate, low Infant Mortality Rate and low General Death Rate reflect a vigorous and healthy population of young people in a rapidly growing industrial area under conditions of full employment. The proportion of aged and elderly persons appears to be lower in Ellesmere Port than is generally the case in the remainder of England and Wales.

A summary of the main statistical items is given below together with those for England and Wales and the smaller towns.

The Crude Death Rate is 6.75 per 1,000 estimated population, compared with 7.71 in 1952. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.4, and for the smaller towns 11.3.

The Birth Rate is 20.50 per 1,000 population; in 1952 the rate was 20.01. The rate for England and Wales is 15.5 and for the smaller towns 15.7.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 22.63 per 1,000 live births, compared with 31.15 in 1952. The Rate for England and Wales is 26.8, and for the smaller towns 24.3.

No cases of Food Poisoning were reported.

Measles (208 cases), Whooping Cough (87) and Scarlet Fever (58) were the most frequent Infectious Diseases notified. The two former diseases were less prevalent than in the previous year. There were more cases of Scarlet Fever than in 1952. The incidence of other Infectious Diseases was low.

Twenty-seven fresh cases of Tuberculosis were reported, of which 26 were Pulmonary, and one was Non-Pulmonary. In 1952 there were 22 Pulmonary and 3 Non-Pulmonary cases notified.

It will again be noted that the general standard of samples submitted for examination in the course of routine sampling of foodstuffs, including milk, is very satisfactory, and reflects on the control exercised in this direction.

The Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, in his report submitted to me, also comments favourably on the fact that out of 50 samples of milk not one contained extraneous water.

The problem of atmospheric pollution has received close attention during the year in association with the Alkali Works Inspector, who is the official primarily concerned, particularly in respect of any nuisance arising from the emission of obnoxious gases to the atmosphere. It is felt that every endeavour is being made by all concerned to solve the problem in this connection which appears to be of a highly technical character.

It is noted that the building programme in respect of the construction of Council houses is still being actively pursued, and this must inevitably affect the degree of overcrowding in the district.

Included at the end of the Report is an extract from my Annual Report as Divisional Medical Officer, on the Personal Health Services operating on behalf of the County Council in the South West Cheshire Division, of which Ellesmere Port Urban District forms part.

In conclusion I express my appreciation of the support received from the Members of the Health Committee, and the co-operation and assistance of the Staff of the Department during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. J. BIRCHALL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Ellesmere Port Urban District Council

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT for the Year 1953

The Urban District of Ellesmere Port is coextensive with the civil parish of that name and it includes the former civil parishes of Whitby, Little Sutton, Great Sutton, Childer Thornton, Hooton, Great Stanney and Ince.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:

E. TUFT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS:

R. K. FRANCIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

G. KINREAD, M.S.I.A.

G. CARR, M.S.I.A.

CLERK:

G. POWELL.

SHORTHAND-TYPISTS:

Mrs. A. RICHARDSON (Part-time).
(Commenced duties 26.1.53).

Miss B. WALKER

CLERK-TYPIST:

Mrs. M. ELLIS.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor V. CRUTCHLEY, Chairman

Councillor W. P. CARTWRIGHT, J.P.,
Chairman of the Council

Councillor H. G. BLACK, O.B.E., J.P.,
Vice-chairman of the Council

Councillors T. Astbury, V. Ball, D. B. D. Bevan, J. A. Collin,
C. Donoghue, J. Donoghue, H. Fazakerley, W. Jones, T. H.
Lewis, S. Peers, C. Price, A. Pritchard, G. T. Prytherch and
M. Scott.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,470
Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,144
Number of houses and flats in the area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,892
Rateable value (1st April, 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£255,577
Sum represented by the Penny Rate (1953/54)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£975

The Natural increase in Population (that is, excess of births over deaths) is shewn in the following tables.

Natural Increase per 1,000			Natural Increase per 1,000		
Year	Population	Pop.	Year	Population	Pop.
1938	23,030	7.03	1946	28,740	12.49
1939	26,920	11.75	1947	29,670	15.9
1940	28,160	9.8	1948	30,860	13.3
1941	28,530	9.25	1949	31,290	10.88
1942	27,950	11.16	1950	32,110	10.33
1943	27,560	15.5	1951	32,670	7.89
1944	27,220	13.44	1952	33,680	12.29
1945	27,160	10.9	1953	34,470	13.75

The Natural increase in Population (that is, excess of births over deaths), 1938-1953 (England and Wales).

Per 1,000				Per 1,000			
Year	Population			Year	Population		
1938	3.5	1946	...	...	7.6
1939	2.9	1947	...	...	8.5
1940	0.3	1948	...	...	7.1
1941	1.3	1949	...	...	5.0
1942	4.2	1950	...	...	4.2
1943	4.4	1951	...	...	3.0
1944	6.0	1952	...	...	4.0
1945	4.7	1953	...	...	4.1

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

for the Year 1953

(Compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General)

LIVE BIRTHS

							Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	345	342	687
Illegitimate	..	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	20
							<hr/> 358	<hr/> 349	<hr/> 707

Birth rate	Corrected	Comparability
per 1,000 Population 20.50.	Birth rate 20.50.	Factor 1.00.

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population (1953) in 160 smaller towns (population 25,000—50,000) — 15.7.

STILL BIRTHS

							Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	15
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							<hr/> 8	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 15

Still birth rate 20.78 per 1,000 total live and still births or 0.435 per 1,000 of the population.

The average number of births per annum in the years 1938-1952 was 603.

TABLE OF NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES, 1938-1952

Year	Number	Birth Rate	Year	Number	Birth Rate
1938	476	18.28	1946	635	22.09
1939	543	20.25	1947	730	24.60
1940	566	20.09	1948	665	21.54
1941	565	19.80	1949	673	21.50
1942	538	19.96	1950	614	19.31
1943	603	21.87	1951	604	18.48
1944	611	22.44	1952	674	20.01
1945	555	20.43			

Birth Rate, England and Wales, 1953	...	...	...	...	15.5
Birth Rate, England and Wales, 1952	...	...	...	...	15.3
Birth Rate, Administrative County of Cheshire, 1952	...	...	...	...	14.3

DEATHS

Males, 128.

Females, 105.

Total, 233.

Death Rate, 6.75. Corrected Death Rate, 8.97. Comparability Factor, 1.33.

TABLE OF NUMBER OF DEATHS AND DEATH RATES, 1938-1952.

Year	Number	Death Rate	Year	Number	Death Rate
1938	293	11.26	1946	276	9.60
1939	229	8.50	1947	257	8.66
1940	291	10.3	1948	253	8.19
1941	301	10.5	1949	223	9.54
1942	246	8.79	1950	282	11.76
1943	276	10.01	1951	346	10.59
1944	245	9.0	1952	260	7.71
1945	252	9.28			

The average number of deaths per annum in the years 1938-1952 was 268.

Death Rate, England and Wales, 11.4 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate, 160 smaller towns, 11.3 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and still Births	Rate per 1,000 live Births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil	—	—

The figures for England and Wales were:—

	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	0.10
Other Puerperal Causes	0.24
	0.34

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births	16	22.63
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	16	23.29
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	—

The figures for England and Wales were:—

All England and Wales	26.8
160 smaller towns (estimated resident population 25,000 — 50,000 Census 1951)	24.3
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	30.8
London (Administrative County)	24.8
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	11

TABLE OF INFANT MORTALITY, 1938-1952

Rate per				Rate per			
Year		1,000 Births		Year		1,000 Births	
1938	48.3	1946	...	...	55.11
1939	58.93	1947	...	...	56.16
1940	63.3	1948	...	...	33.08
1941	72.9	1949	...	...	31.20
1942	35.8	1950	...	...	35.83
1943	71.3	1951	...	...	31.45
1944	34.3	1952	...	...	31.15
1945	46.85				
Deaths from Measles (All ages)				...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)				...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea				...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (All ages)				...	...	...	41

CAUSES OF DEATH

						Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
2.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	12	5	17
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	17	17	34
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	21	10	31
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
20.	Other Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	10	25	35
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	5	8
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	12	1	13
25.	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
26.	Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	11	11	22
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total						128	105	233

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

The following services are available :—

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory Service at Birkenhead undertakes free bacteriological examinations of milk, water and other specimens for local authorities.

Food and drugs administration is carried out by the County Council and their officers submit samples for examination by the County Analyst.

FOOD POISONING

No cases were reported during 1953.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service for the district operates under the direction of the South West Cheshire Divisional Health Committee of the County Council, with the help of the Chester City Ambulances acting as an agency service. The Ambulance Depot is situated in Ellesmere Port.

NURSING IN THE HOME

Two full time District Nurses are engaged under the direction of the County Council in Ellesmere Port and an additional one in Little Sutton.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are held at the Child Welfare Centre, York Road, Ellesmere Port, the Welfare Centre, Little Sutton, the Community Centre, Overpool, and the Village Hall, Ince.

The Day Nursery, Little Sutton, was closed by the County Council, and is now used as a Welfare Centre. A clinic was established at the Village Hall, Ince.

Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Aural, Ante and Post Natal Clinics are organised under the supervision of specialists at Ellesmere Port.

A school clinic with Dental Services is also held at the Welfare Centre, Ellesmere Port.

HOSPITALS

The Clatterbridge General and Isolation Hospitals, in addition to the Ellesmere Port and District Hospital, serve the town for most purposes.

Maternity. Hospital provision is at Clatterbridge where patients are under the supervision of the Consulting Obstetrician who attends the ante-natal clinics at the Welfare Centre.

In addition there is a separate maternity home at Heswall.

Midwives. There are eight midwives practising in the District, five of whom are employed by the County Council.

SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

The provisions of the above Act enable a Local Authority to apply for the compulsory removal to a hospital or County Council hostel of aged and infirm persons who are in need of care and attention, and are unable to care for themselves. Such cases as were investigated and were recommended for accommodation in Hospital or County Council Hostel agreed to removal; and there was no need to take action under the above Section of the Act in any instance.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The prevalence of Infectious Diseases during the period 1942—1953 is shewn in the following table which gives the case rate per 1,000 of the population.

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Enteric Fever	Erysip- elas	Measles	Whooping Cough
1942	1.14	5.90	0.00	0.03	1.57	0.07
1943	3.08	12.51	0.00	0.00	10.26	0.18
1944	2.56	2.09	0.00	0.07	0.62	0.47
1945	9.46	0.73	0.00	0.22	10.19	0.00
1946	3.47	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.38	0.24
1947	1.85	0.30	0.03	0.20	5.12	0.20
1948	1.32	0.16	0.00	0.20	2.68	1.74
1949	1.60	0.00	0.06	0.09	10.87	4.12
1950	1.21	0.06	0.00	0.09	10.18	4.17
1951	1.68	0.06	0.00	0.18	11.78	2.84
1952	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.23	14.57	7.77
1953	1.68	0.029	0.00	0.34	6.03	2.52

The corresponding notification rates for England and Wales are as follows :—

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Enteric Fever	Erysip- elas	Measles	Whooping Cough
1942	2.19	1.05	0.01	0.30	7.46	1.73
1943	3.01	0.88	0.02	0.31	9.88	2.54
1944	2.40	0.58	0.01	0.29	4.16	2.49
1945	1.89	0.46	0.02	0.25	11.67	1.64
1946	1.38	0.28	0.03	0.22	3.92	2.28
1947	1.37	0.13	0.02	0.19	9.41	2.22
1948	1.73	0.08	0.02	0.21	9.34	3.42
1949	1.63	0.04	0.02	0.19	8.95	2.39
1950	1.50	0.02	0.00	0.17	8.39	3.60
1951	1.11	0.02	0.00	0.14	14.07	3.87
1952	1.53	0.01	0.02	0.14	8.86	2.61
1953	1.39	0.01	0.01	0.14	12.33	3.58

There were two notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia in 1953, shewing a notification rate of .05. The corresponding notification rate for England and Wales per 1,000 births (live and still) is 18.23.

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CASES

Disease	North East	North West	South	Whitby	Stanney	Victoria	Overpool	Childer Thornton	Little Sutton	Great Sutton	Grange	Ince	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	3	7	8	4	4	19	2	8	—	58
Measles	1	6	4	4	11	13	17	14	52	3	54	2	208
Whooping Cough	5	—	2	1	14	3	35	5	4	2	16	—	87
Pneumonia	3	1	2	—	1	7	2	—	2	—	1	—	19
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	—	—	12
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	9	9	11	9	41	34	60	24	81	35	81	3	397

TABLE OF AGE-GROUPS SHOWING THE TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS, 1953

	Total	0—1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	Over 65	Age unknown
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Total Cases	397	16	22	23	23	22	81	5	2	3	4	6	1	—
Total Deaths	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever... Cases	58	—	—	2	3	2	18	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	208	4	10	14	15	14	51	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Cases	208	4	10	14	15	14	51	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough Cases	87	7	8	6	5	5	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia..... Cases	19	4	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	1	—
Deaths	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	2	1	—
Cases	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection Cases	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Cases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pyrexia Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Cases	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Deaths	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sanitary Circumstances

WATER SUPPLY

The mains of the West Cheshire Water Board supply the entire area and from them there is a plentiful supply of excellent water.

The supply is laid into the houses with the following exceptions: a bungalow and two cottages at Great Sutton served by one stand-pipe and a house in Little Sutton which obtains its supply from a private well. A number of houses in the Parish of Ince also obtain water through standpipes, the remainder having a piped supply laid into the houses.

The water throughout the district is in a piped supply from the pumping stations at Hooton, Prenton and Mouldsworth. Softening operations have been temporarily suspended at the Hooton Pumping Station as well as at Prenton and Mouldsworth.

During the year 132 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and 20 samples for Chemical Analysis from the flamed tap in the softening house of the three pumping stations.

The following are the results of a sample of water taken for bacteriological examination from the pumping station at Mouldsworth on the 29th July, 1953, and this is a fair specimen of the average result from all 132 samples throughout the year.

Similarly appended is a copy of the analyst's report on the chemical analysis of a sample taken from the pumping station at Hooton on the 15th July, 1953. All samples taken from the Water Board's pumping stations were hard in character, though not to a degree which could be considered unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological Report

on the

Examination of a Sample of Water

Received — 30th July, 1953, from West Cheshire Water Board.

Labelled — Mouldsworth Pumping Station, Flamed tap in Cottages.

Date — 29.7.53, 1-50 p.m. Taken by — R. J. Elam.

Witness — S. Crawford. Signed — R. J. Elam.

Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or milli- litre of water growing upon Agar at 37 deg. C. in one day	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or milli- litre of water growing upon Agar at 37 deg. C. in two days	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or milli- litre of water growing upon Agar at 37 deg. C. in three days	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Smallest quantity of water producing acid and gas in Bile-Salt Lactose Broth after two days incubation at 37 deg. C. (Presumptive Bacillus Coli Test)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Absent from 100 ml.
Smallest quantity of water containing the Bacil- lus Coli	...	...	...	...	...	...	Absent from 100 ml.
Smallest quantity of water giving the reaction of the B. Welchii (Bacillus Enteriditis Sporo- genes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Absent from 100 ml.

This is a very satisfactory sample. It is clear and bright in appearance and of the highest standard of bacterial purity consistent with a wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

Chemical Analysis

on the

Examination of a Sample of Water

Analysis of a sample of Water received on 16.7.53 from West Cheshire Water Board, labelled Hooton Pumping Station, No. 7 Borehole. Flamed tap on rising main.

Taken by: R. J. Elam. Witness: J. Heath. Date: 15.7.53, 1-10 p.m.

Chemical Results in parts per Million:

Appearance — Clear and bright

Colour	Nil	Turbidity	Nil
pH	7.3	Odour	Nil
Electric Conductivity	510	Free Carbon Dioxide	13
Chlorine present as Chloride	30	Total Solids	340
		Alkalinity as Calcium	
		Carbonate	250

Hardness: Total, 245; Carbonate, 205; Non-Carbonate, 40.

Nitrate Nitrogen	3.2	Nitrite Nitrogen ... less than	0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	Oxygen Absorbed	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000	Residual Chlorine	Absent

Metals — Iron: 0.05; Manganese: less than 0.03; Other metals absent.

REPORT

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from negligible traces of iron and manganese. The water is hard in character but not unduly so, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and it is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

The following information has been supplied by the Engineer to the West Cheshire Water Board.

1. Particulars of any new source of public supply.

During 1953 work continued on the River Dee Scheme authorised by the West Cheshire Water Orders, 1950 and 1952. The construction of a service reservoir at Sutton Hall to store twelve million gallons of water was commenced and a tender was also let for the provision of treatment plant to deal with six million gallons per day.

Considerable progress was also made in the laying of further pipelines between Chester and Ellesmere Port.

It will be recollected that the West Cheshire Water Order, 1952, authorises the Board to abstract from the Dee up to a total of 16.8 million gallons per day, ten million gallons of which can be taken immediately and the balance on the completion of the Bala Lake Scheme to be carried out by the Dee and Clwyd River Board. Work at Bala commenced in May, 1953, and continued throughout the year.

2. Improvements to existing sources of public supply.

One of the three new sets of pumping plant at Hooton Pumping Station was installed and brought into use.

3. Any important extension of mains.

Within the area of your Council extensions of mains have been carried out for the North Whitby Estate, Parts 1, 2 and 3; the Glenwood Road and Seymour Drive Estates and also for the Clydesdale and Heathfield Estates.

As part of the Dee Scheme referred to in (1) above a 24-inch main has been laid and a supply of non-potable water for industrial use made available to the Associated Ethyl Company.

4. Have pipe supplies been satisfactory in quality and quantity

Chemical and Bacteriological analyses taken at regular intervals throughout the year have shown the supplies to be of the usual high standard.

Apart from the occasion of a breakdown on the trunk main feeding the district supplies have been maintained throughout the year.

5. Is any part of the district in need of an improved water supply?

Generally the position is satisfactory.

Sampling of Food and Drugs

The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of the Cheshire County Council has kindly supplied me with the following particulars of samples obtained in the Urban District of Ellesmere Port and forwarded to the Public Analyst during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

LIST OF SAMPLES OBTAINED IN THE ELLESMERE PORT URBAN DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

Sample	Number obtained	No. adulterated or not up to the recognised Standard of quality
Almonds, Ground	1	—
Butter	2	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	—
Cut Peel	1	—
Cheese	3	—
Cooking Fat	2	—
Castor Oil	2	—
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	1	—
Corn Flour	1	—
Coffee	2	—
Desiccated Coconut	1	—
Dessert	1	—
Easton's Syrup	1	—
Fish Paste	2	1
Glycerine	1	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	1	1
Honey	1	—
Iodine	1	—
Jam	2	—
Liver Sausage	1	—
Milks	50	3
Meat Paste	3	—
Margarine	2	—
Mustard	1	—
Mincemeat	1	—
Olive Oil	3	—
Pepper	1	—
Piccalilli	2	—
Suet	1	—
Sweets	1	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing	1	—
Vinegar, Malt	2	—
Zinc Ointment	1	—
	<hr/> 97 <hr/>	<hr/> 5 <hr/>

Particulars of non-standard samples:

No.	Article	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1.	Milk	10% deficient in fat and 1% deficient in non- fatty solids	Seller Cautioned. Retail sale from churn.
2.	Milk	1.6% deficient in non- fatty solids	Retail sale. No action.
3.	Fish Paste (Shrimp)	20% deficient in fish	Retail sale. Manufacturers cautioned.
4.	Milk (Channel Islands)	6.2% deficient in fat	Retail Sale. Full particulars sent to Ministry of Food in accordance with instruc- tions contained in Circular M.F. 8/48.
5.	Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	List of ingredients on label of bottle declar- ed Citric Acid 1.6% but only 0.9% found	Manufacturers cautioned. Note. Citric Acid is inclu- ded only for flavouring purposes.

REPORT
of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
For the Year 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Ellesmere Port
Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to submit details of the work carried out by the department relative to the sanitary circumstances and inspection of the district.

The activities of the department have continued to expand and will increasingly do so with the impending new legislation affecting housing and food and drugs.

I would like to express my appreciation to the staff for their loyalty shewn during the year and for their assistance and support which has made this report possible.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) E. TUFT.

Summary of Inspections

Nature of Inspections	Notices served.				
	Number	Informal	Formal	Complied with	Re- maining in hand
Dwelling houses (General) .	319	258	40	244	14
Dwelling houses (Housing Act, 1936)	5	5	—	5	—
Revisits to work in progress	1570	—	—	—	—
Schools	23	15	—	13	2
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Caravans	60	14	—	14	—
Yards and Paved Areas ...	632	600	1	600	—
Privies, Cesspools, Septic Tanks, etc.	13	13	—	13	—
Drainage, Inspections	60	38	—	38	—
Tests	2	—	—	—	—
Ditches, Watercourses ...	68	14	—	12	2
Offensive Accumulations ...	7	4	—	4	—
Food Premises	887	144	—	142	2
Licensed Premises	28	23	—	11	12
Factories, Mechanical	50	20	—	20	—
Non-mechanical ..	—	—	—	—	—
Piggeries	13	8	—	3	5
Dairies & Milk Distributors	41	—	—	—	—
Industrial Plant (Atmos- pheric Pollution)	20	9	—	7	2
Observations re atmos- pheric pollution	86	—	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases Enquiries	91	—	—	—	—
Other Visits	17	—	—	—	—
Disinfections	89	—	—	—	—
Verminous Premises:					
Inspections	59	59	—	59	—
Disinfestations	172	—	—	—	—
Samples submitted for Bac- teriological Examination					
Milk	83	—	—	—	—
Rinse Water (Catering Est.)	48	29	—	29	—
Ice-Cream	85	—	—	—	—
Other Foods	1	—	—	—	—
Drinking Water	3	—	—	—	—
Swimming Pool	2	—	—	—	—
Shops Act	242	47	—	47	—
Reference to other Depart- ments and Miscellaneous Visits	1158	70	—	68	2
Interviews	959	—	—	—	—
Refuse Disposal Sites	15	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding: Enquiries ...	182	—	—	—	—
Other Visits	38	—	—	—	—
Former Military Camp	19	10	—	10	—
Pet Animal Act Shops					
Inspections	5	1	—	1	—
Rat Infestations	819	819	—	819	—
TOTALS ...	7971	2200	41	2159	41

Public Health Act, 1936

During the year forty Abatement Notices were served upon the Owners of premises in respect of the existence of Statutory Nuisances. The Notices were all complied with, although in fifteen instances it was necessary for the Clerk of the Council to issue warning letters, intimating that legal proceedings would be instituted unless the notice which had been served was completed immediately. Such letters are only sent after the time stated in the notice has expired without the work being commenced.

In spite of the many difficulties encountered a great deal of housing repair work has again been carried out by informal action during the period under review.

The number of dust bins supplied and delivered to premises — total 863, of these 92 were supplied subject to annual charge of 5/-. This is only carried out after the non-compliance with an informal notice served upon the Owner and the total of bins so supplied since the scheme was inaugurated to the 31st December, is 170.

Apart from letters received from tenants of houses requesting an inspection of their premises, 1,220 verbal complaints were made at the office. This is a big increase over the previous year's figure, in fact the largest recorded.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, fourteen applications were received for licences to erect or station and use a moveable dwelling for human habitation. Fourteen licences were issued and in each instance were made subject to certain sanitary conditions being observed as set out in the licence.

The indiscriminate tipping of industrial waste on a private disposal site mentioned in previous reports has received the active attention of the Council with a view to more control being exercised.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The department has again been actively engaged in many matters concerning atmospheric pollution during the year and close co-operation with the management of industry has been maintained.

It will be recalled that in the previous year's report mention was made of the holding of our first series of lectures on the subject of Smoke Abatement and Fuel Efficiency. This was such a success that enquiries from outside bodies were received in addition to local industry as to the possibility of further lectures again being held during the Winter months of 1953.

It was evident there was a genuine need for an approved course to be undertaken and contact was made with the Principal, Central College of Further Education, Eastham, Wirral.

Mr. A. V. Harrison, the Principal of the College was indeed most helpful and a course to meet the requirements for the examination of The City and Guilds of the London Institute was arranged by him in consultation with the Ministry of Fuel and Power and the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Lectures were conducted by a member of the staff together with a lecturer from the Engineering Department of the College.

The response to this course was very gratifying and a number of personnel entered for the examination.

It is our earnest hope that efforts made in this field of the work will ultimately reflect in a further step towards a cleaner atmosphere.

It is pleasing to report that the Council agreed to support a resolution made at the 1953 Annual Conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society relating to the provision of adequate facilities for the storage of smokeless fuels at Council Houses.

With the ever increasing development of the district both from an industrial point of view and of domestic buildings this problem of atmospheric pollution becomes more important than ever.

The nuisance of gaseous emissions from the distillation and cracking of petroleum products has continued to receive attention in co-operation with the Alkali Works Inspector and it is felt that every effort is being made by the Industry to solve the problems.

It does appear, however, that with the highly technical chemical processes which we have in the district, the prevention of emission of all obnoxious gases is extremely difficult. Whilst

this is the primary concern of the Alkali Works Inspector, with whom close co-operation is maintained, it is evident that action must be taken by the department not only to obtain first hand information of the measures being taken by industry to suppress the nuisance, but also to act as liaison officer and afford some measure of assistance as may be necessary.

Whilst extensive measures as was envisaged in last year's report, have and are being undertaken by the Company concerned regarding the emission of carbon particles to atmosphere, it was found necessary towards the end of the year to institute a system of daily observations and submission of quarterly reports to the Council.

CAMPS

The remaining former military camp mentioned in last year's report is still in use by several families.

They will be rehoused and the camp finally closed down as soon as circumstances permit.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The number of houses found to be infested during the year was :—

(a) Council Houses'	11
(b) Other Houses	19
(c) Number disinfested	30
(d) Total visits	60

The number of houses treated shew an increase over the previous year's figures and a number of individual cases have been noted where the standard of cleanliness was unsatisfactory.

All infested houses were treated with liquid and powder form of D.D.T., with satisfactory results. It is not generally considered now necessary to have wood-work removed in the bedrooms to facilitate disinfestation, due to the residual effect of D.D.T.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority, through the staff of the Sanitary Department.

DRAINS AND SEWERAGE

There are two sewage disposal works in the District. The works at Little Stanney were erected during the year 1933, and designed for a population of 20,000; whilst the disposal works at Sunnyside Pontoon, known as the Town Works, were reconstructed and designed for a population of 7,000. An area is drained under the Manchester Ship Canal to the River Mersey without treatment.

The scheme for the Parish of Ince is still under consideration together with the proposal of dealing with the property shewn in the recent survey as being unfit for human habitation.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The small River Gowy is within the Urban District and is bordered by oil works along its entire length in this District. It is tide-locked where it is syphoned below the Manchester Ship Canal to discharge into the River Mersey.

A great deal of pollution is evident due to trade effluents from neighbouring industries.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The greater part of the District is provided with clean water closets, but on the outskirts of the town where sewers are not available, some pails, privies, cesspools and septic tanks are in use.

Several septic tank and filter bed installations have again been reconstructed on action taken by the department. Regular inspections have to be carried out to these small sewage disposal plants in order to see that regular maintenance is being observed, otherwise the most efficient soon become a source of pollution and nuisance. Experience has shewn that in many instances Owners have gone to a great deal of expense in providing suitable sewage works but never take the necessary interest in maintenance.

A service is in operation under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor's Department for the regular cleansing of pail closets in the Parish of Ince.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Surveyor's Department. Modern mechanised vehicles are in use and disposal is by tipping.

For this form of disposal, controlled tipping in its entirety is the only satisfactory solution to the problem, otherwise the site soon becomes untidy and a veritable eyesore.

All premises in the district utilise the standard dust-bin, 24" x 18" and the Sanitary Department enforces the renewal etc., of dilapidations.

SWIMMING POOL

The Rivacre Swimming Pool is owned by the Council and has a swimming area of 1,567 square yards.

The water passes through a continuous bath purification plant which embodies two horizontal air-scoured pressure filters with a circulation pump capable of circulating the total contents of the Pool in a period of eight hours.

The new chlorination plant has proved to be highly satisfactory and samples of water are taken at regular intervals during the summer season.

SCHOOLS

There are three Council Secondary Schools, 12 Council Primary Schools and four Denominational Schools in the District.

All the schools are supplied with piped water from the West Cheshire Water Board's mains.

There is now only one school in the Urban District with trough type conveniences and it is hoped that a conversion scheme will soon be put in hand by the Authorities concerned.

The Head Teachers of the various schools are immediately notified on occurrence of cases of infectious diseases in order to secure the exclusion of the contacts for the necessary period.

During the vacation, and at other times when found necessary, the schools are thoroughly disinfected.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections.

Premises (1)	M/c. Line (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c. Line (7)
			Inspections (4)	Notices Written (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	10	—	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	111	50	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding outworkers' premises)	3	2	—	—	—	7
TOTAL		123	50	—	—	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	M/c. Line (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c. Line (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	to H.M. Inspector (5)	by H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient ...	9	4	1	—	1	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	34	15	—	1	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ...		38	16	—	2	—	

Housing Acts

It is considered that the Health Committee is the Committee primarily responsible to the Council in respect of the general housing conditions of the area, affecting overcrowding, unfit houses, and of the standard of accommodation prevailing, therefore whilst attention has been given during the year to this important work it is essential to ensure that adequate steps are being taken to deal with the many problems affecting this very vexed question.

During the year it was found possible to modify the allocation of houses to overcrowded families due entirely to the efforts previously made by the Council in dealing with the cases brought to their notice. The new arrangement provides for reports on overcrowding to be made only on the instructions of the Housing Committee and this is considered to be satisfactory.

Applications made in respect of grants within the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, are dealt with by the department in association with the Clerk of the Council.

In conformity with the new arrangement arrived at by the Council detailed inspections are made regarding applications received by the Clerk of the Council under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts relating to existing dwellings in order to ensure that before a loan is granted the premises are in a good state of repair and sanitary condition and a full report is prepared in each instance. This scheme is to be commended for it ensures that the property is brought up to standard.

Reports in respect of four individual unfit houses were dealt with by the Committee and undertakings submitted by the Owners were accepted in each instance to the effect that the premises would not again be used for human habitation unless and until they had been rendered fit to the satisfaction of the Local Authority.

The following table of housing inspections is prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1 (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	395
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1499
2 (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	5
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	25
3	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
4	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	73

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	32
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice	Nil
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority	Nil

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	40
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice:—	
(a)	By Owners	39
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c)	Remaining in hand	1

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	2

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined but tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Two applications for registration of food premises were received during the year under review in relation to the sale of ice-cream. Both were satisfactory and licences were issued.

There are now 108 premises in the district registered within the provisions of Section 14.

The new food legislation envisaged in the previous report is still pending consequently the remarks mentioned in this connection remain unaltered.

Supervision has been exercised in respect of alterations and modifications to food premises and it is pleasing to report that in a number of instances Managements look to the department for assistance and advice in planning layout, etc., particularly in respect of industrial canteens. Such co-operation is appreciated and reflects greatly to the work previously carried out.

The advantage of some form of refrigeration is stressed wherever applicable with no small measure of success, although in one or two instances opposition is still being encountered chiefly on account of cost.

FOOD HYGIENE

The Clean Food Joint Consultative Committee has continued to play its part in furtherance of the aims of food hygiene in the district and regular meetings have been held.

All sections of the food industry are fully represented on the Committee and the Chairman for the past year was Mr. N. Hallmark, Managing Secretary, Ellesmere Port and District Co-operative Society, Ltd., this being his second year as Chairman. The help and co-operation received from the Committee is greatly appreciated for really good work has been done since its inception.

The opportunity has once again been afforded to address meetings of Women's Organisations which is appreciated by the department.

The programme adopted for the holding of lectures to all food handlers was again put into operation during the winter months and a number of personnel attended the full course of

four lectures and duly received their certificate. It does appear that this educational work will be a permanent feature for there will always be new entrants into the food trades who have not received training in food hygiene.

It is considered that the standard of food handling in this district compares very favourably with that of other towns and further progress has been made during the year towards the attainment of our ultimate goal in food hygiene. The co-operation received from the trade in general is to be appreciated. Full support of the housewife however is essential otherwise the results of the efforts made by the department in this important work are to some extent restricted.

LICENSED PREMISES

Works of improvement have been carried out through action taken as a result of the survey completed in 1952, but in a number of instances progress is slow. In these cases major alterations are involved which to some degree account for the delay, nevertheless, it is considered essential that those concerned must not be allowed to view the problem with complacency.

RESTAURANTS, CANTEENS, etc.

Routine visits have been paid to this type of food premises and works of improvement have been carried out. In connection with samples of rinse water 48 were obtained for examination, 29 being classified as "Not satisfactory."

The double sink method of washing crockery, etc., is recommended by the Department whenever applicable. This entails the preliminary washing of utensils in one sink at 110 deg. F. or thereabouts, followed by immersion in another at a temperature between 170 deg. F. and 180 deg. F.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SAMPLING

In addition to routine work 86 special visits were paid to food premises at the request of the Owners and the following foods were rejected being unfit for human consumption:—

86 tins Meat	8 Cartons Conflakes
220 tins Fruit	8 Cartons Puddings
48 tins Milk	4 Cartons Dessicated
102 tins Tomatoes	Coconut
4 tins Beans in Tomato	12 Pkts. Jellies
29 tins Vegetables	18 Pkts. Cake
4 tins Soup	36 Pkts. Cake mixture

16 tins Salmon, Group 1	395 lbs. Cooked Ham
2 tins Salmon, Group 2	21 lbs. Jellied Veal
2 tins Fish	744 lbs. Beef
26 tins Mussels & Oyster	21 lbs. Bacon
2 tins Braised Liver	44 lbs. Sausages
1 tin Spaghetti	28 lbs. Fish
1 tin Peeled Shrimps	7 lbs. Pickled Shrimps
22 Jars Fruit	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Biscuits
10 Jars Jam	3 lbs. Cake
15 Jars Pickles	1 lb. Coffee
1 Jar Cockles	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Tea
2 Jars Meat Paste	59 lbs. Sweets & Chocolates
28 Jars Lemonade Crystals	19 only Fish Cakes
15 Boxes Processed Cheese	16 only Meat Pies
8 Cartons Chocolate Spread	1 only Christmas Cake

ICE-CREAM

Seventy-six samples of ice-cream were taken for examination from all dealers and manufacturers during the year. This sampling is carried out on a rota basis whereby each trader is visited at irregular intervals.

Of the 76 samples obtained and examined in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry, 72 were placed in Grade 1, and this is considered a very good standard.

In addition 9 lolly ices were taken for examination 8 of which were satisfactory.

There are two establishments in the district who manufacture by the hot mix method. Conditions at both are satisfactory.

In several instances it has been noted that traders registered to retail wrapped ice-cream were in fact "breaking down" Family Blocks. This is considered not to be in accordance with the registration of the particular premises and suitable action was taken.

Close attention has been paid to itinerant ice-cream dealers to see that their vehicles are kept to standard in accordance with the code of practice in operation for this type of trader.

MILK SUPPLY

There are 3 registered dairies and 36 distributors in the district. In addition 4 distributors bring milk into the area from outside districts as well as four registered wholesalers. These figures shew an increase of distributors over the previous year.

The work of milk sampling is carried out on a rota basis on the lines mentioned in previous reports.

Eighty-three samples were obtained and sent to the bacteriologist for examination, each being examined in accordance with the designation applicable to the sample.

Of the 36 samples examined for Tuberculosis, all were returned negative.

Eighty-three samples were examined in accordance with the designation. Eighty were satisfactory and "follow-up" action was taken in respect of the samples which failed the prescribed test.

Seventy-nine Dealers' Licences and six Supplementary Licences were issued by the Local Authority under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

An increasing number of retailers continue to obtain their supplies already bottled thus reducing the handling of milk to a minimum.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Council is the Local Authority for the purpose of administration of the whole of the provisions of this Act and 242 inspections were paid during the course of the year under review.

PET ANIMALS ACT

There are three premises in the district licensed in accordance with the provisions of this Act. All are satisfactory.

Rats and Mice Destruction

Three rodent operatives are employed together with a charge-hand whose part-time services are chargeable to rodent control.

The fullest co-operation is received from the occupiers of property, particularly industrial premises. This results in the work being carried out without friction and is appreciated. A number of annual contracts are in operation and a free service is granted to occupiers of domestic property to clear any rat infestation.

Membership of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Workable Area Committee No. 22 has been continued and meetings attended which have this year been held at Wallasey.

12,908 inspections were carried out by the rodent operatives with 1,344 poisoning campaigns undertaken. The total amount of "poison take" i.e., poison and bate combined, on all campaigns was Zinc Phosphide 31 lbs. 13 ozs., Red Squill 29 lbs. 3 ozs., Arsenic 5 lbs., Mafantu 21 lb. 12 ozs., Warfarin 7 lbs. 13 ozs.

A formula prepared by the Ministry for the calculation of the estimated kill of the common rat when Zinc Phosphide and Arsenic are used shews that in respect of these two poisons used in campaigns, a total kill of 1,472 is arrived at for the year.

A test baiting of 10 per cent. of sewer manholes in the entire district were baited and "no takes" recorded in each instance. This was satisfactory and a certificate was issued by the Divisional Rodent Officer exempting the Council from undertaking any further action in the treatment of sewers during the financial year ending 31st March, 1954.

**LIST OF LOCAL OR ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS, ORDERS OR REGULATIONS
IN FORCE (so far as unrepealed) IN THE URBAN DISTRICT**

Subject matter	Authority by whom made	Area in which in force	Date	Date of confirmation
Ellesmere Port and Whitby Urban District Council Act, 1914.			Adopted 1902	
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	...	...	...
Private Street Works Act, 1892	...	...	Adopted 1902	
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5)	...	...	Adopted 1902	
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts 2, 4 and 6)	...	...	Adopted 1909	
Public Libraries Act, 1892	...	...	Adopted 1907	
Order declaring certain trades to be offensive within the district	...	...	Adopted 1911	
Public Health Acts, 1925 (Parts 2, except Section 20)	...	...	Adopted 1937	
Libraries	Ellesmere Port U.D.C.	Whole Area	30/11/1933	13/1/1937
Pleasure Grounds	ditto.	ditto.	25/1/1937	31/5/1937
New Streets and Buildings	Ellesmere Port and Whitby U.D.C.	Parishes of Ellesmere Port and Great Stanney	26/10/1925	12/1/1926
Tents, Vans and similar Structures	Wirral Rural District Council	Parishes of Great Sutton, Little Sutton and Hooton	19/2/1923	5/4/1923
*Omnibuses	ditto.	ditto.	19/11/1923	15/1/1925
Offensive Trades	ditto.	ditto.	17/11/1924	8/1/1925
Buildings	ditto.	ditto.	17/11/1924	12/1/1925
Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cess-pools	Chester Rural District Council	Parish of Ince	28/2/1923	28/4/1924
Building Byelaws	Ellesmere Port U.D.C.	Whole Urban Area	29/1/1940	11/7/1940
Handling, Wrapping and delivery and sale of food in the open air	ditto.	ditto.	29/12/1949	12/4/1950 (repealed)
ditto.	ditto.	ditto.	30/6/1952	6/9/1952

* These were in effect repealed by Section 122 and the 5th Schedule to the Road Traffic Act, 1930, which repeals the Town Police Clauses Act, 1889, so far as it is related to public service vehicles.

Annual Report on Health Services of South West Cheshire Division for the Year 1953

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Division comprises Ellesmere Port and Hoole Urban Districts and Chester and Tarvin Rural Districts. The total population, according to the Registrar General's latest figures (mid 1952) is 83,063, and the area is 116,086 acres, which is the equivalent of 0.7 persons per acre. The number of inhabited houses is approximately 23,212, and the combined rateable value approximately £526,000.

For the past five years, the Committee has occupied itself with the establishment and expansion of the Health Services under Part III. of the National Health Service Act, 1946, which were delegated to it by the County Council. Although full expansion is not yet complete, most of the services now show signs of more stable working conditions.

The Ambulance Service shows small increases in direct mileage and the number of patients carried, and a consequent reduction in the use of supplementary vehicles, taxis, etc. The cost per mile of both Ambulances and Sitting Cars is less than the average for the rest of the County. It is hoped that the construction of a new Ambulance Depot will be commenced in 1954.

With the completion of repairs to the Village Hall at Ince, a new Welfare Centre was opened there in April, and commenced regular fortnightly Child Welfare Sessions.

The Day Nursery at Little Sutton was closed by the County Council in May as a measure of economy on account of continued small attendances; and arrangements were made for the conversion of the building for use as a much needed Welfare Centre and Dental Clinic in this area. Attendances were well maintained at the Day Nursery at Ellesmere Port throughout the year.

The Domestic Help Service shows a marked decrease in costs and a small increase in receipts. There has been a decline in the considerable activities of this Service over the past year. During the early years since 1948, the Service had greatly expanded, and there was in consequence a steep rise in costs. The County Council instructed the Committee, in the interests of economy, to curtail the Service both in respect of the number of hours allotted to each case, and in the number of Domestic Helps employed, so as to reduce expenditure. Details are outlined in the report.

With regard to the medical statistics included in the report, it will be noted that there is again an increase in the number of cases, chiefly Pulmonary, on the Tuberculosis Register.

In relation to the general notification of Infectious Diseases, there was a decline in the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough notified, and an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER J. BIRCHALL,

M.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

South West Cheshire Divisional Health Committee

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

N.H.S. ACT, 1946 (SECTION 22)—
CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

A—Mothers' Clinics:

	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ante-Natal	484	2,918
Post-Natal	174	214
Dental:—		
Pre-Natal	8	11
Nursing Mothers	2	3
Dentures Supplied		—

B—Young Children's Clinics:

	New Cases	Total Attendances
(1) Infant Welfare—		
To 1 year	932	10,283
1—5 years		3,687
(2) Specialist—		
Ophthalmic	37	121
Dental Treatment (under 5)	110	122
E.N.T. (Under 5)	70	75
	Daily Average No. Attending	Total Attendances
(3) Day Nurseries—		
Aged 0—2 years	13	3,545
2—5 years	33	9,096

Details of figures (where they relate to more than one Clinic) are given hereunder:—

Eye Clinics:	New Cases	Total Attendances
Hoole	11	20
Ellesmere Port	26	101
Totals	37	121
Number of Children under five for whom spectacles were prescribed ...		19
Number of cases recommended for hospital treatment		15

Ante and Post-Natal Clinics:

	New Cases	Total Attendances
Hoole—		
Ante-Natal	21	46
Post-Natal	24	48
Ellesmere Port—		
Ante-Natal	463	2,872
Post-Natal	150	166

Day Nurseries:

	Daily Average No. Attending	Total Attendances
Ellesmere Port—		
Aged 0—2 years	14	3,408
„ 2—5 years	30	7,305
Little Sutton—		
Aged 0—2 years	2	137
„ 2—5 years	18	1,791

Welfare Centres:

	New Cases	Total Attendances	
	0—1	0—1	1—5
Barrow	14	126	147
Ellesmere Port	350	3,631	891
Farndon	10	124	102
Hoole	150	1,567	265
Huntington	34	269	152
Kelsall	37	335	241
Little Sutton	108	1,350	484
Malpas	24	211	173
Overpool	62	612	166
Saughall	44	508	289
Tarvin	17	175	174
Tattenhall	19	174	205
Upton	79	1,076	363
Ince	14	128	35
Totals	962	10,283	3,687

SPECIAL COMMENTS

Welfare Centres and Day Nurseries

WELFARE CENTRES

INCE — A new Welfare Centre commenced to hold fortnightly sessions at the Village Hall in April to serve Ince and neighbouring parishes.

LITTLE SUTTON — Following upon the closure of the Day Nursery at the end of May, the existing Welfare Centre was transferred from the Methodist Hall in July and continued its regular weekly sessions at these premises. Dental, School and Ante-Natal clinics also commenced regular sessions.

HOOLE — The Ministry of Food were provided with facilities for the sale and distribution of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice, at the Welfare Centre during Clinic Sessions.

DAY NURSERIES

Both Day Nurseries had new and larger hot water boiler systems installed in order to provide a better supply of hot water.

LITTLE SUTTON — Owing to continued low attendances, the County Council decided to close this Nursery at the end of May, and to use the premises as a much needed Welfare Centre and Dental Clinic in this rapidly growing neighbourhood. Plans were submitted to the Committee by the County Architect for the conversion of the building for this purpose. Redundant equipment was either transferred to Ellesmere Port Day Nursery or to the County Store at Winsford.

ELLESMERE PORT — Attendances continued at a high level throughout the year, especially after the closure of the Little Sutton Day Nursery.

The general health of both children and staff was good, and the incidence of Infectious Disease was low.

During the summer recess the two main Nursery rooms had their floors relaid with Marley tiles and some re-decorations were carried out in these rooms.

50 Tubular steel chairs were recanvassed at a cost of £30.

Toys to the value of £10 were purchased, and a successful children's party was organised by the Matron and Staff for the children.

Four applications were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year for reduction in fees, in each case a reduction was granted.

A comparative Statement on the costs of Day Nurseries for the year ended 31st March, 1953, was received from the County Treasurer, and the daily cost per child during the year was as follows :—

1951/52	—	9/10 ³ / ₄ d.	1952/53	... 10/7d.
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Average cost throughout the County was :—

1951/52	—	9/3 ¹ / ₂ d.	1952/53	— 11/3 ¹ / ₂ d.
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(Section 23)

Midwives

Number of Births — 1,725 (including 33 Stillbirths).
(Adjusted for inward and outward transfers).

(Section 23/25)

Midwifery and Home Nursing

TRANSPORT

A variety of repairs were carried out to the County owned cars used by the District Nurse and Midwives.

A Sub-Committee to advise on County owned cars used by the District Nurses and Midwives was appointed:

Members: Messrs. V. Ball, R. Seddon, T. L. Trelfa.

ACCOMMODATION

The District Nurses for Malpas and Saughall were allocated houses by the Tarvin Rural District Council and the Chester Rural District Council respectively.

In those cases where the accommodation and furnishing of premises for District Nurse/Midwives has been the concern of the Committee, the invaluable help of the lady members is much appreciated.

(Section 26)

Vaccination and Immunisation

Total fees paid for the period 1-1-53 — 31-12-53 amounted to £406. 0s. 0d.

Statistics are as stated below :—

A. VACCINATION

	Males	Females	Total
1. Primary Vaccination—			
(1) Pre-School Children	286	303	589
(2) School Children	10	6	16
(3) Adults	8	19	27
Total	304	328	632
2. Re-Vaccination—			
(1) Pre-School Children	1	2	3
(2) School Children	3	3	6
(3) Adults	37	60	97
Total	41	65	106

B. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**Incomplete**

(1) Pre-School Children	106	105	211
(2) School Children	38	51	89
Total	144	156	300

Males Females Total

Completed

(1) Pre-School Children	375	396	771
(2) School Children	53	84	137
Total	428	480	908

Re-Immunisation

All Children	1,535	1,491	3,026
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C. OTHER IMMUNISATION (e.g. WHOOPING COUGH)

(1) Pre-School Children	30	36	66
(2) School Children	8	5	13
Total	38	41	79

These figures are not final as records are still being received for services performed during 1953.

(Section 27)

Ambulance Service

	No. of vehicles	Total No. of Journeys	Total No. Patients Carried	No. of Accident and Emerg. journeys inc. in Col. 3	Total Mileage
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
A. Directly Provided:					
Ambulances	5	3,050	7,338	586	80,021
Cars	2	1,096	3,072	18	47,245
B. By Agency:					
Ambulances	5	922	922	190	8,610
Cars	—	—	—	—	—
(Chester City Ambulance).					
C. Supplementary:					
Ambulances	—	—	—	—	—
Cars	—	116	199	—	2,177
(W.V.S. Taxi, etc.)					

It will be observed from the Table set out below that mileage performed by vehicles of the Divisional Ambulance Service compares favourably with the previous year.

	Mileage 1952	Mileage 1953
C.C.C. Ambulances	71,761	80,021
C.C.C. Cars	53,658	47,245
	<hr/> 125,419 <hr/>	<hr/> 127,266 <hr/>

A Comparative Statement on the costs of the Ambulance Service for the year ended 31st March, 1953, was received from the County Treasurer, and the cost per mile was as follows:—

	1951/52	1952/53
Ambulances	1/6 ³ / ₄ d.	1/7d.
Sitting Case Cars	1/0 ³ / ₄ d.	1/1d.

The average cost throughout the County was:—

	1951/52	1952/53
Ambulances	2/3d.	2/6d.
Sitting Case Cars	1/3d.	1/4d.

STAFF

The Committee recommended the promotion of the Senior Driver, E. Clapperton, to the post of Ambulance Supervisor.

Three members of the Ambulance Service were awarded Safe Driving Diplomas by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

There have again been several changes amongst the Ambulance Staff, details as follows:—

Ambulance Drivers, resigned	3
Ambulance Drivers, appointed	1
Ambulance Attendants, appointed Drivers	2
Ambulance Attendants, resigned	2
Ambulance Attendants, appointed	4

New and Developing Industries in the Ellesmere Port area offer more attractive remuneration and this appears to be the main reason for frequent changes of staff. An additional reason is the unsatisfactory accommodation at the Depot.

Uniforms were purchased at a cost of £108.

DEPOT

Consideration of the provision of a new Depot has been deferred for twelve months, and it is understood that such provision will be made by the County Council in 1954/55.

A new Morris Commercial Sitting Case Ambulance was delivered in June, originally for the purpose of transporting Mentally Deficient children in the Wirral area to the recently established Occupation Centre at New Ferry. The arrangement was not proceeded with, and the vehicle is used in the normal Ambulance Service.

The establishment of vehicles and personnel as fixed by the Divisional Committee and approved by the County Staffing Committee is as follows:—

Vehicles		Personnel	
Ambulances	5	Supervisor	1
Sitting Case Cars	2	Ambulance Drivers	3
		Ambulance Attendants	4
		Sitting Case Car Drivers...	2
		Part Time Drivers	2
	—		—
	7		12
	—		—

CIVIL DEFENCE

The old Rolls Royce Ambulance was formally transferred to the Civil Defence Service and its valuation placed at £150. This Ambulance is obsolete, and spare parts are difficult to obtain. These facts were brought to the notice of the County Health Department, and a redundant 1938 Austin Ambulance was transferred from Hyde Division for the use in this Division for Civil Defence. The value of the Austin Ambulance was placed at £200. At the end of the year no decision had been reached as to the disposal of the Rolls Royce.

(Section 28)

Prevention of Illness — Care and Aftercare Tuberculosis

A. Number of Cases investigated in Division :—

(1) Tuberculosis :—

(a) Number of forms C. & A.C.4 completed	55
(Primary Investigation).	
(b) Number of forms C. & A.C.22 completed	479
(Follow-up visits).	
(c) Number of cases where patient has been found to have :—	
(a) Removed from area	9
(b) Been cured	1
(c) Died	7

(2) Other than Tuberculosis 47

All cases of chronic illness awaiting admission to Chronic Wards or suitable Institutions are visited regularly by Health Visitors until admission is effected.

B. Number of cases placed in employment (Disabled Persons Act) Nil

C. Particulars of loans of nursing equipment — A hospital type bed with lifting apparatus and a latexfoam mattress were purchased at a cost of £24. 4s. 3d. for a paraplegic case.

Repairs were effected to two chalets in the possession of tuberculosis patients for the sum of £13.

CONVALESCENCE

The sum of £155 was allocated for the year ending 31st March, 1954, for Convalescent treatment. Two cases had been recommended for convalescence, one of which was found to need hospital treatment and arrangements were made for his admission to Heath Lane Hospital. The other case is at present waiting for a vacancy at the Brentwood Recuperative Centre near Manchester.

STATISTICS RELATING TO CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON NOTIFICATION REGISTERS OF DISTRICT COUNCILS IN THE DIVISION

	MALES			FEMALES			TOTAL		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total Cases
1. Cases on Register at 1-1-52	201	84	285	199	72	271	400	156	556
2. Cases notified and transferred into area during year	48	1	49	35	2	37	83	3	86
3. Number of cases removed from Register during year	12	—	12	5	—	5	17	—	17
4. Cases on Register at 31-12-53	237	85	322	229	74	303	466	159	*625

* This figure is made up as follows:—

	Non-Pulmonary			Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary		
1. Ellesmere Port U.D.C.	218	73		291
2. Hoole U.D.C.	56	10		66
3. Chester R.D.C.	117	31		148
4. Tarvin R.D.C.	75	45		120
TOTALS	466	159		625

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1953

District	Disease																								
	Para-typhoid Fever		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Polio-myelitis		Measles		Pneu-monia		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Acute Encephalitis		Erysipelas		Meningococcal Infection		Malaria		Puer-peral Py-rexia
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Ellesmere Port Urban District	—	—	29	29	45	42	—	—	111	97	11	8	—	6	—	—	—	1	7	5	1	2	—	—	2
Hoole Urban District	—	—	1	2	19	14	—	—	9	5	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Chester Rural District	1	—	22	12	29	23	1	3	76	53	51	4	—	—	7	10	—	—	1	1	—	—	11	—	—
Tarvin Rural District	—	—	12	12	15	17	—	—	95	69	24	17	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	1	—	64	55	108	96	1	3	291	224	86	29	—	7	8	15	—	1	9	7	1	2	11	—	2

(Section 29)

Domestic Help Service

There has been a decline in the number of applications for Domestic Helps and in the number of cases attended in the Divisional area. A review of the cases during the year shows that 60 per cent. of the cases attended were chronic sick including aged and infirm, and 20 per cent. were maternity cases, the remaining 20 per cent. were for various causes (including tuberculosis).

Comparative costs for the financial years 1951/52 and 1952/53 based on figures supplied by the County Treasurer:—

	Financial year ended 31-3-53	Financial year ended 31-3-52
Hours worked	55,852	72,410
Cost to the County Council	£6,872	£8,223
Amount collected	£1,824	£1,504
Gross cost per hour worked	2/5½d.	2/3¼d.
Amount collected per hour	7¾d.	5d.
Nett cost per hour worked	1/9¾d.	1/10¼d.

Average for the remainder of the County:—

Gross cost per hour worked	2/6¾d.	2/4d.
Amount collected per hour	8d.	7d.
Nett cost per hour worked	1/10¾d.	1/9d.

Every effort was made, in conjunction with the Health Visitors, to keep the cost down to a minimum without impairing the efficiency of the Service.

A revised scale of assessment was introduced with effect from the 1st July, the standard charge being increased to 2/9d. per hour.

A.	Number of New Applicants	...	...	70
B.	Number of Domestic Helps working:—			
	(a) Permanent	...	...	1
	(b) Temporary	...	...	37
C.	Number of cases attended	...	...	127
D.	Special cases for report	...	...	20

Twenty cases were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year. In four cases, debts were cancelled, twelve cases were referred to the Clerk of the County Council to take steps to recover the arrears.

Two applications for reduction in assessment were not allowed, in one case a reduction in arrears was granted, and in the last case domestic help was not to be supplied.

National Assistance Act, 1948 — Part III.

In my capacity as the Representative of the County Medical Officer of Health, I carried out two visits of inspection to Shotwick House, Great Saughall. Very little change has taken place since 1952 and the excellent conditions of this establishment continued to maintain a high level.

Meetings of Committee

A communication was received from the Clerk of the County Council with the suggestion that Divisional Committee meetings be held bi-monthly instead of monthly, as a measure of economy. After due consideration following initial deferment of any decision for a few months, the Committee resolved to continue the practice of monthly meetings, and left the decision to cancel any meetings, in the event of insufficient business, to the discretion of the Chairman.

Divisional Office Staff

The Chief Clerk, Mr. G. O. Ellis, secured another appointment and resigned his post in October. He was succeeded by Mr. F. McLelland, of Birkenhead, who commenced duty in November.

The Committee expressed their appreciation of the services of Mr. Ellis and their good wishes for his future success.

Estimates 1954/55

Estimates for the year 1954/55 were submitted, and following is a summary of the items recommended to the County Health Committee for approval and inclusion in the block estimates:—

	£
Welfare Centres	2,510
Day Nurseries	1,705
Midwifery	80
Health Visiting	20
Home Nursing	1,410
Vaccination and Immunisation	545
Ambulance Service	5,420
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care ...	235
Domestic Helps	3,850
Administration	3,617
	<hr/>
	£19,392

